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VOL. XI.

JUNE 21, 1918

NO. 5

THE CIVILIAN

A FORTNIGHTLY JOURNAL
DEVOTED TO THE INTERESTS
OF THE
CIVIL SERVICE OF CANADA

FEATURES

Federation Business.
Honour to the C.G.R. Employees.
Civil Service War News.
J. W. Curry, Esq., M.P.,—A Peroration.
The Last Hereditary Title.
The Women's Column.
A Few Notes on the New Law.
Order in Council for Statutory Leave.
Dominion Customs Association.
The Postal Journal.

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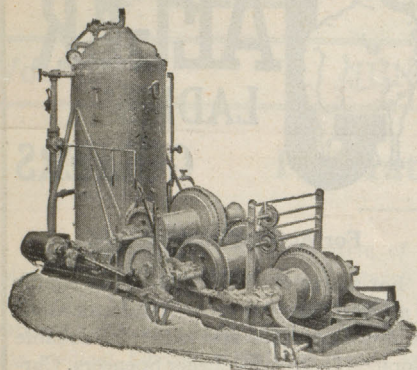
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THE CIVILIAN

Vol. XI.

JUNE 21, 1918.

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Federation Business

At a meeting of the Executive of the C. S. Federation of Canada, held at Ottawa May 27th, the president, Mr. Walter Todd, announced that, much to his regret, he was compelled to sever his connection with both the Federation and the C. S. Association of Ottawa. He explained that in doing so he was simply carrying out the instructions of his medical adviser. He also stated that if his health permitted he would be glad to return to office and assist in the important work of the Federation. All the members of the Executive gave expression to their deep feelings of sympathy with Mr. Todd in his illness and expressed hopes for his complete restoration to health. Warm expressions of appreciation of Mr. Todd's contribution to the cause of good government, to which he has devoted several years of his life, were voiced.

In order to fill the vacancy, a resolution was adopted appointing Mr. F. Grierson president, and Mr. L. D. Burling, heretofore the assistant secretary, to the full duties of secretary-treasurer. These appointments were subject to mail vote of the members of the Executive living outside of Ottawa, and therefore the following letter was authorized:

"Dear Sir,—

At a meeting of the Executive of the Federation held at Ottawa, Mr. Walter Todd tendered his resignation as president, expressing his regret that he was compelled to do so at the direction of his medical adviser. Mr. Todd is suffering from the effects of a hemorrhage he had some weeks ago.

The members of the Executive present expressed their great sympathy for the president, and also appreciation for the valuable services rendered. As it was considered advisable at this time to have at Ottawa a member of the Executive with the status of a president, Mr. F. Grierson was unanimously nominated to fill the presidency and Mr. Burling to carry on as secretary-treasurer.

These nominations are herewith forwarded to you for approval or otherwise by mail vote and your immediate reply is requested."

The letter was sent to the following: S. W. Wilkins, A. Venables, C. E. Willox, J. E. Philibert, H. McLaughlin, R. Holmes, Charles Gardiner, T. G. Mathison and J. B. Shaw.

Replies have been received from the foregoing, who have voted unanimously in the affirmative.

The officers of the Dominion Railway Mail Clerks' Association, who were elected to the Executive of the Federation at the convention held November, 1917, were not asked to vote as that organization has decided not to co-operate with the Federation and has withdrawn its provisional support. No explanation as to the action of the railway mail clerks is available, but the following letter from the secretary conveys the resignation of both Mr. C. A. Power and Mr. C. A. Hives from the Executive of the Federation:

F. Grierson, Esq.,
Civil Service Federation of Canada,
Ottawa, Ont.

Winnipeg, April 29, 1918.

Dear Sir,—

I am directed by the executive members of this Federation to advise you that, as this Federation has not yet decided to affiliate with the Civil Service Federation of

Canada, this Federation do not recognize any representation which they have on the Executive of that body.

Believe me, Sincerely,

C. A. HIVES,

Secretary,

M. C. Federation.

Honour to the Canadian Government Railway Employees

Inasmuch as there has always been a distinction made, both officially and in the public mind, between the employees of the Canadian Government Railways and other divisions of the Civil Service of Canada, *The Civilian* did not include the volunteers from the railway staffs in its Roll of Honour of civil servants enlisted for active military service.

The men of the Canadian Government Railways have made a splendid record for themselves in this war and *The Civilian* is glad to be able to give it added publicity.

According to official records, the number of employees voluntarily enlisted between August 4th, 1914, (the date of Canada's entry into the war) and October 13th, 1917, (the date of the first proclamation under the Military Service Act) was 1,431. Of this number, ninety-six were reported as having been killed, as having died of wounds or disease, or as being missing during the same period.

WELL DONE, MEN OF THE C.G.R.!

WAR PERSONALS.

Lieut.-Col. C. E. Bent, C.M.G., D.S.O., has been appointed to command of a battalion.

G. Daunt O'Connor, son of Garrett O'Connor, of Bridgeburg, who went overseas in the ranks, has won a commission. He enlisted in 1914, from Queen's University, and has been in France for thirty-nine months.

Nursing Sister Irene Brady, who has just received the Royal Red Cross, second class, is a daughter of Martin Brady, secretary to the Surveyor General.

Geo. H. Boyce (Post Office Department) has been promoted captain and put on instructional duty in the Royal Air Force as recognition of work well done during six months' service on the Italian front.

Capt. A. W. Black, M.C., is home on furlough.

Major Herbert Somerville Smith, awarded the Military Cross, is a son of William Smith, I.S.O., of the Archives.

Flight Lieut. J. L. Deslaurier, wounded, is a son of J. E. Deslaurier, of the Topographical Surveys.

Gunner Gerald O'Regan, gassed, is a son of James O'Regan, of the Supreme Court Library, and was formerly an employee of the Department of Trade and Commerce.

Miss Alice Houston, the only Canadian V.A.D. nurse who has been Mentioned in Despatches for conspicuously gallant behaviour under fire, is home on leave. She is very reticent about what happened on the night when the German aircraft bombed the hospital, twenty miles behind the lines, and certain members of the staff won high credit for their work to save the imperilled patients. She is a member of the Post Office Department staff.

OUR HONORS WON.

Flight-Lieut. J. O. Galpin, D.S.C., is again Mentioned in Despatches.

Capt. Percy H. Gardner, a member of the staff of Arnprior Post Office, and one of the three sons of Postmaster H. W. Gardner now overseas, has won the Military Cross. He is one of the three original officers of the 38th Battalion who are still with that unit and has earned promotion from a lieutenancy to the command of a company. He was wounded some time ago, but returned to his unit when recovered. The Order awarding the decoration is not received, but in the letter announcing the award Lieut. Col. C. M. Edwards says:

"Under authority granted by the King, the Field-Marshal Commanding in Chief has awarded you the Military Cross for the excellent action of you and your company on the St. Emile front. I am delighted this has come through and I feel you have earned it before this time. The army corps, divisional and brigade commanders have sent their congratulations, and I wish to add, with all sincerity, my own, and best wishes."

Major-General Garnet B. Hughes has been made a Companion of the Bath. He was already a C.M.G. and has the D.S.O.

The Military Cross is awarded to Captain George T. Dodge, assistant engineer of Public Works at Sherbrooke, who went overseas with the 87th Grenadier Guards of Canada and was Mentioned in Despatches some time ago.

Lieut. G. Harold Burland, of the Auditor General's Office, formerly of the 207th, now serving with the 38th Battalion, has been awarded the Military Cross.

The following are among the Canadian civil servants Mentioned in the official Despatches of the Commander in Chief, dated April 7th: Lieut.-Col. E. T. B. Gilmore, Lieut.-Col. D. C. Draper, Lieut.-Col. C. E. Bent and Lieut.-Col. A. Earchman, Capt. T. H. Parker, Major J. C. de Balinhard.

BUMPED HIS NOSE.

"After two years of intense strain and hard work, accompanied by many discouragements and much bad luck, I have at last the satisfaction of being able to report that I have had the good fortune to meet up with a German sub and 'strafed' him good and proper by dropping a 100-pound bomb on his nose."

This is a paragraph from a letter written by Flight-Lieut. Joseph Hobbs, of the Public Works staff at Sault Ste. Marie, to his chief engineer, W. J. Fuller.

"Joe" is by nature a dead game sport of the finest type. His whole life has been spent in hunting, fishing, exploring and cruising in small boats, and he has had hundreds of adventures and escapes of the hair-breadth variety. To him, service in the Royal Naval Air Service is a new and delightful sort of sport. It is said that he started hunting big game when he was twelve years old. His weapon was an old Snider army rifle that knocked him flat every time he fired it.

He wanted to enlist at the outbreak of the war, but was persuaded to wait until he could go into some service in which mechanical skill would be of value. The R.N.A.S. gave him his chance.

On the South and East coasts of England he had several engagements with sea and air raiders, and one one occasion tackled a Zeppelin all alone. That was before the explosive bullet was in use and the big gas bag got away from him. Later, he was injured while testing a "bus" and was invalided home, but as soon as he was able he "went to it" again.

"Joe" is now second in command at an important station and has several "mentions" and recommendations to his credit.

His younger brother, Basil, followed him into the flying game and proved a phenomenon. He has destroyed a Zeppelin, three submarines and several seaplanes, and has been decorated with the D.S.C., the D.S.O. and a bar to the latter. He is now with the British Embassy at Washington.

These are "some boys" to come out of the Algoma bush.

A PICTURE FROM FRANCE.

Private F. Bruce Robertson, of the 3rd Canadian Division, Artillery Signals, France, who in civil life is attached as Forest Assistant to the Forestry Branch, Department of the Interior, Ottawa, writes as follows:

"It is Sunday. The outfit is out on rest and there are no parades. The old lady by whose fire I am sitting has asked me if I had plenty of tobacco. I thought it a hint, so asked if she smoked. "Oui," says she, "mais tobacco fini en France." You can picture her now puffing away at an old clay pipe on the other side of the fireplace. She had an earache half an hour ago, but that is forgotten now. Coffee is making in a black saucepan on the fire, so I foresee a pleasant morning for both of us. Outside it rains. It is one of those big fireplaces, you know, extending across one side of the brick-floored room, and I have a cosy seat under the arch. We have a brick oven in the wall also, in which she made bread for refugees yesterday. Old style baking and the best, in which a brush fire is made in the oven, then coal raked out and the bran loaves put in. Had a sample of the bread, just a little, in fresh warm milk last night, and it went fine.

"For the past month I have been mounted lineman on a cable section. We have been doing considerable work laying lines off the wagon. You may have seen the signal company in training practising the same about Ottawa. This is over for the present. Life is simplicity itself in this country village, with a nightly game of ball to relieve the monotony. Our one other amusement is watching the local shepherd and dogs herd the community flock of sheep.

"As a 'Y' worker you will be interested in knowing that our ball outfit is supplied by the Y.M.C.A. All sorts of sporting goods are handed out, including phonographs, and the troops appreciate the work."

CIVIL SERVICE CASUALTIES.

The wounding of CAPT. P. H. GARDNER, M.C., who is referred to in the column of "Our Honors Won," was not previously recorded in this column.

LIEUT. J. R. MERRIFIELD, originally

of the 238th Battalion, now second in command of the 75th Company, Canadian Forestry Corps, was wounded some time ago when serving with an artillery unit. He belongs to the Survey Records Branch, Department of the Interior.

J. D. MCCORMICK, of the Post Office Department, was gassed in a shell explosion on May 29th. He was a 73rd Battery recruit, served for a time with the Princess Pats and then returned to the artillery.

WALTER THOMPSON HOWARD, of the Toronto Post Office staff, died in a military hospital in France recently. Particulars have not been received. He was twenty-four years old, went overseas in 1916, and was one of four brothers in khaki.

LIEUT. MICHAEL F. CUNNINGHAM, R.A.F., has been missing since June 6th. He was on the Central Registry staff, Militia and Defence, before enlistment.

LIEUT. GEORGE HAROLD BURLAND, M.C., was slightly wounded in the neck on April 26th. He belongs to the Auditor General's Office.

JOHN BALCHIN, Railways and Canals, wounded and left on the field during the retreat before the German drive in the Somme valley on March 23rd, is now stated to be a prisoner of war. He was with the Machine Gun Squadron of a Canadian cavalry unit, which was badly cut up. His C.O. reported that he was left at Vandeuil Fort with wounds so serious that they would almost surely prove fatal. News that he is a prisoner is rather a surprise.

LIEUT. B. W. HARMON, M.C., D.C.M., etc., who was reported missing about a month ago, is now "reported dead from German sources." The official list containing this announcement was issued by the Militia Department on Monday.

FORTY YEARS SERVICE.

Jas. R. Cuthbertson, a veteran letter carrier of the Toronto postal service, completed his fortieth year of service last week. When he became a letter carrier in 1878 there were only twenty-four men on the Outside Service, and no sub-stations. The salary then was from \$300 to \$400 a year.

SOMETHING NEW.

In the last issue of *The Civilian*, mention was made of Lieut.-Col. G. E. Sanders, C.M.G., D.S.O., a retired inspector of the Royal Northwest Mounted Police, who is on active service overseas. Respecting this officer a press despatch says:

Lieut.-Col. G. E. Sanders, D.S.O., of the Second Canadian Pioneer Battalion, holds a somewhat remarkable record in the Canadian forces. He is said to be the first Canadian officer who has ever been known to suggest that his command should be taken over by a younger man. In view of the splendid work which had been done by the Second Pioneer Battalion, the Canadian authorities have been rather hard to persuade on this point; but Colonel Sanders has, unfortunately, insisted that, while he may still be useful in other directions, pioneering is a young man's job. Colonel Sanders, who fought through the Boer war with distinction, was before that war in command of the Northwest Mounted Police at Calgary. Indeed, he returned to that command of famous "Mounties" after the war.

An Unbeaten Record.

To have lost an arm in the Northwest rebellion more than thirty years ago and yet to have served in the Canadian forces overseas in the present war and to have been wounded in the Ypres salient is a record unique, and, *The Civilian* believes, unbeaten. It is the record of Corporal A. J. Wilson, an employee of the Department of Public Works, Ottawa.

Corp. Wilson is well known in the Capital as the one-armed bugler of the Governor-Generals Foot Guards. Those who have missed him from the Guards' parades during the last three years have probably thought that he had retired on account of long service. Few knew that he was serving again, somewhere in France.

At the outbreak of the war, Corporal Wilson secured enlistment as bugler in the Army Service Corps. Later he was transferred to the infantry and was attached to the 14th "Royal Montreal" Battalion. With that unit he went to England, and, eventually, by persistent effort, he overcame offi-

cial objection and got to the firing line—one of the very few one-armed men, other than officers of high rank, who ever were permitted to again face the foe, in this or any other war.

One night in 1916 the battalion was in the Ypres salient and went forward to occupy the trenches. "Fritz" was having his nightly "strafe." Wilson was unlucky enough to get hit in the side, and that ended his soldiering in France.

When he recovered from the wound, he wanted to go back to the line, but he was kept in Blighty for a long time as instructor of buglers and recently was returned to Canada. He is now on the strength of the Fleming Convalescent Home. He wants to go overseas again, but the "powers" hold a contrary opinion.

J. W. CURRY, ESQ., M.P., ON THE BILL.

J. A. Curry, Esq., M.P., East Simcoe, in the debate on the Civil Service Bill, made a slashing attack upon the Government, upon the Bill, upon the Federation, upon *The Civilian*, and upon all other things animate and inanimate. The following climax to his peroration is quoted as fitting and appropriate:

"I often wring my hands and mourn, and oftentimes I get in dutch, and all the troubles I have borne have come because I talked too much. I can't restrain my eager jaws, when there's a chance to spring hot air; I argue every human cause, and every subject, everywhere. The less I know about a theme, the more warm platitudes I shed, I talk until my hearers scream, and bounce a brickbat on my head. When I arise to hand out slush, to make a little timely speech, the auditors get up and rush for all the fire escapes in reach. I know it's my besetting sin, this thing of talking all the day; but when at spiling men begin, it's mighty hard to break away. I'm always trying to reform, but when I see a chance to talk, I paw around and rant and storm, and push pink language round the block. Then people bat me on the dome with wooden leg and club and crutch, and tell me I should toddle home, and stay there, for I talk too much."

THE CIVILIAN

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of Canada.

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all other communications should be addressed
to:

THE CIVILIAN, P. O. Box 484, Ottawa.

Ottawa, June 21, 1918



THE NATIONAL DUTY.

WE MUST GO ON OR GO
UNDER.

—Lloyd-George.

OUR BOYS

Previously reported:

Dead	333
Wounded	470
Prisoners	21

DEAD

WALTER T. HOWARD.
LIEUT. B. W. HARMON, M.C.

WOUNDED

CAPT. P. H. GARDNER, M.C.
LIEUT. J. R. MERRIFIELD.
J. D. McCORMICK.
LIEUT. H. BURLAND, M.C.

PRISONER.

JOHN BALCHIN.

THE LAST HEREDITARY TITLE.

"Reputation is a false and most unjust imposition oft got without merit and lost without deserving." So wrote the great philosopher. It may be inferred that the teacher considered man incompetent to distribute honours based upon reputation as so defined. Yet man has gone on attempting to decorate each other with ribbons and stars and garters. Some are born to a reputation; some achieve one, and some have a reputation thrust upon them. Some, moreover, palm off par-boiled reputations upon the public like a magician upon a mystified audience and thereby file their titles.

We had cudgelled our brains to find why man seeks aught else in this world besides Honour, which requires no decoration; why rather he goes after honours (quite a different thing) and trappings and meaningless ornaments. We have solved the mystery. In looking over "The Origin of Species," we find the human race has transmigrated through every species of fish, animal and bird life. This makes it clear how in the daily round we come to meet the "under-dog," like the civil servant under Patronage; the "fox," like Bill and Dan, and the "fish," like *The Civilian* subscriber who will not pay his dues.

It is also clear that some of the human species extant to-day transmigrated through the peacock in the regular course of natural selection. Hence the solution—any man or woman who aspires to a title or a decoration must once have been a peacock. The system, like Patronage, is to be abolished, but before the axe falls we desire to nominate a dear friend for a hereditary title. This seems to be inconsistent, seeing that we are strong for the abolition of all titles, both sacred and profane. We plead, however, a special case and we crave a special privilege. We may be accused of sy-

cophancy or even (terrible dictu) of Patronage. Even so, so devoted are we to our friend that we bespeak for him from the Government and the people of Canada an hereditary title of knighthood and let it be the last granted in our country.

During the last session of Parliament there issued into the limelight of Canadian public life a personality who, by a single act, has brought to Canada and its public service a priceless gift. For this service it is desired that a grateful people shall bring garlands from the laurel tree and array our friend in all the habiliments of Royalty and that henceforth our friend shall be known as the Right Honourable Sir Merit System.

As announced in a previous issue, there is promised the formation of a Civil Service Reform League. Heretofore the movement for reform has been from within the Service. During the recent exciting episodes in the history of reform in Canada, the one hundred Civil Service organizations made themselves distinctly felt and their activity was recently well supported by the press. The battle for reform is still in the initial stages and therefore the promise of an organization outside the Service, composed of public-spirited men, is a most welcome reinforcement to the forces already formed to do battle with the army of patronage. With Professor Wrong is associated Sir John Willison, and *The Civilian* expresses the sincere hope that their reform league will become an accomplished fact. There is no doubt the patronagemongers will fully occupy the time of all the reform leagues that may be formed in Canada.

* * *

The secretary of the Railway Mail Clerks' organization has formally withdrawn its officers from the Executive of the Federation and incidental-

ly expressed its intention not to co-operate with the great federal body. No reason for this action has been stated nor is there any cause for the break available at this time. At the time of the last convention, the officers of the Federation performed a signal service for the good boys of the Railway Mail Service by preparing a memorandum for the Railway Commission on the question of the conditions of the mail cars. It is known that excellent results in improved equipment have been derived on account of these representations. What then has caused the R.M.C. organization to break away at a time when the union of all our forces is so necessary? The editors of *The Civilian* have an immense respect for the fine men who perform a great national service on the R.P.O.—a hazardous and body-racking service. We deeply regret that, according to the judgment of those best qualified to know, the fine lads of the R.P.O. are being led by a Bourassa or a Lavergne. Borrowing the aphorism applied to the patronage H. Q. staff of the British Army in days gone by, we opine that the Railway Mail Service is "an army of lions led by asses." *The Civilian* will be among the first to cheer the good news of the return of the R. M.S. to the fold of the C.S. Federation of Canada, which includes in its membership every Civil Service organization (except the Railway Mail Service) over one hundred associations in all.

* * *

The status of *The Civilian* as a publication is a matter to be determined by the members of the Civil Service themselves. *The Civilian* can exert its maximum of influence only by a maximum of support from the Service and its organizations. There is one way to attain this maximum of influence, and that is for all Service organizations to follow the example set by the noble little body of men composing the Customs association at Fort Frances. The idea of this association

is set out in a letter just received, as follows:

Fort Frances, May 31st, 1918.

The Civilian,

P. O. Box 484,

Ottawa, Ont.

Dear Sirs,—

Enclosed please find money order to the amount of ten dollars, to cover ten subscriptions to *The Civilian* for members as listed below.

At a recent meeting of our association, the following motion appears on our books: "That the annual fee be three dollars, that to include a subscription to *The Civilian* for each member." We all feel that as *The Civilian* is the official organ of the Service, it should be in every member's hands, for it is great source of encouragement for everyone to peruse its bright and instructive pages.

With best wishes for continued success,

I am,

Yours truly,

E. D. TIERNEY,

Secy.-Treas. F. F. Customs Assn.

* * *

A gentle reminder is hereby given to those who require a reminder regarding economy in the use of paper and other material. In Ottawa a civilian contractor takes away tons of paper at enormous profit to himself. The Government may see its way to make this profit as a measure of war economy. In the meantime every one of us would do well to bear in mind that scarcity, if not famine, in many commodities is imminent. Do not cast away your blotter before it is unfit for use. Set aside a place in your desk in which to store paper to be used for rough memoranda, etc., instead of using letter paper or scribbling pads. Try to economize. It all helps.

* * *

The Civilian desires once more to applaud the energy and enterprise of the Woman's Branch of the C. S. Association of Ottawa. The Women's Branch has for many years edited a

department in these pages because the editors believe in the new spheres of influence now being filled by the women of the Service, and because they entertain a high appreciation of the war work being done which will be better and more fully done when the Halcyon Club is in full operation. The Emergency Fund is an agency by which the men of the Service may endorse and encourage the ladies in their patriotic tasks. This fund is devoted to objects connected with the war and an accounting is made in the Women's Column. Members of the Ottawa Service are urged to keep up contributions to this fund.

* * *

The Civilian doesn't like to make corrections—much less does it like to make mistakes—nevertheless, it takes pleasure in admitting one error and in making correction.

In December, 1916, *The Civilian* printed an unofficial report from France that "Bill" Hindle, a railway mail clerk of the Saskatoon district, had been killed. Whether "Bill" has just reached that *Civilian* or that *Civilian* has just reached "Bill" is not clear, but, anyhow, a note is received from "3rd Division Railhead, France," in which "Bill" states that the report of his death, like that of a famous person some years ago, is "much exaggerated." In fact "Bill" is "still alive and kicking," as he puts it, and he adds that there was "no harm done." So *The Civilian* is very glad to publish this correction.

By the way, *The Civilian* has, during the past three years, published reports of three hundred and thirty-six fatalities occurring to civil servants in the army, and this is only the second occasion on which such a report has been contradicted. Not too bad! What?

* * *

The Civilian has received a number of unsigned letters. These cannot be published unless the authors supply their names, though not necessarily for publication.

—
"Carry on."

Every soldier knows what is meant by—"Carry on."

It was the word of our glorious First Division—"Carry on."

At St. Julien the old "Originals" were broken, isolated, decimated—yet they won out because the word was—"Carry on."

When the Hun dashed towards Amiens and hourly losses brought dismay, Haig's word to his army was—"Carry on."

Not only continued effort, but better effort, greater sacrifice, and unfaltering steadfastness is called for by that command—"Carry on."

We can win this war, and, by the Grace of God and the help of the

world's greatest Democracy, now hastening to our aid, save civilization and humanity if we but—"Carry on."

So *The Civilian* adopts a new motto for its editorial page. Into it read the watchwords of all the men who have led and inspired us for nearly four years of bitter trial. It comprises them all. Make it your motto. Think it, write it, speak it, *live* it—"Carry on."

PARTY PATRONAGE.

If there is any canker of public corruption, in ninety-nine cases out of a hundred you can trace it to the baleful effect of political party patronage.—Sir George Foster.

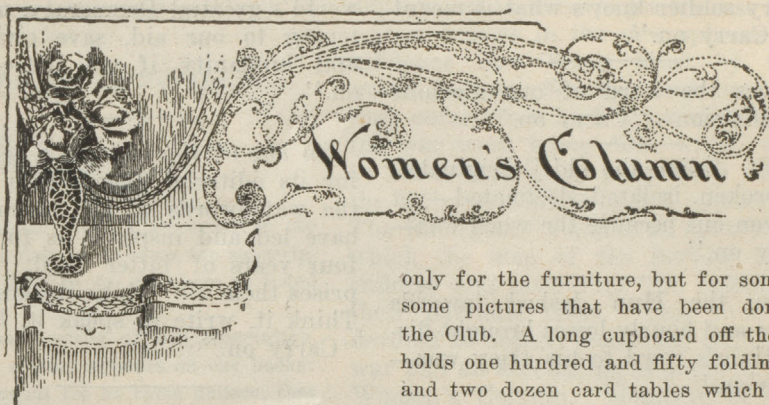


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S. ANARGYROS
IMPERIAL TOBACCO CO. OF CANADA LIMITED, LTD.

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Finest Quality

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The Halcyon Club of Ottawa in Use.

Without any formality the Halcyon Club opened its doors at noon on Monday, June 10th. The House Committee had decided that although the furnishings were not complete in every detail no further delay should be made, for the members, especially the suburbanites, were most anxious to begin using the lounge, and the convener of the Red Cross Committee and her assistants were ready to move into their new quarters. Great credit is due the House Committee for the manner in which the project has been carried out and nothing but praise and appreciation of their efforts is heard on every hand. The lounge which measures 57 ft. by 27 ft. and has four large south windows is comfortably and artistically furnished with brown reed settees and arm chairs upholstered in a bright colored chintz. The same chintz is used for the hangings over the cream figured net on the windows. The writing tables and extra Windsor arm chairs and rockers are of fumed oak as are also the handsome library table and chairs on the stage, which were donated by the Women's Branch. The reading tables have prettily embroidered grey linen covers and each writing table has a rose shaded lamp, chintz trimmed blotter pads and so forth.

Three large reed flower stands are filled with plants and ferns and two high oak pedestals hold some palms. A cream ceiling and deep buff walls, having semi-indirect lighting with bronze fixtures and old ivory bowls form a beautiful background not

only for the furniture, but for some handsome pictures that have been donated to the Club. A long cupboard off the lounge holds one hundred and fifty folding chairs and two dozen card tables which may be used for lectures, bridges and other activities carried on by the club. The north room of the flat is given up to Red Cross work and the Soldiers' Correspondence Committee.

* * *

Red Cross Room.

Besides the receiving and distributing desks and cupboards many work tables are in place and five sewing machines are ready for use during the noon hour or in the evenings. From five to six o'clock only work will be received and distributed. A large cloak room, the superintendents office, where the telephone is placed and kitchenette complete the main floor.

Up stairs are the dressing rooms, tastefully fitted up in pink chintz and white enamel and a store room where all supplies may be safely stored away. The superintendent, Miss Alexander, is in complete charge of the rooms and is there from noon till 9.30 p.m. each night. On Sundays the Club will be open as an accommodation only from after church in the morning till seven o'clock, and some member of the committee will be in charge.

The members fees are coming in very well and by the end of the month it is expected that over five hundred will be enrolled.

* * *

Visitors.

The executive have decided that after the formal opening, women civil servants who are not members of the club may come as guests of members only three times

until they avail themselves of the privilege of membership. The members are at liberty to bring in their friends at all times with the exception that gentlemen are not to be admitted at the noon hour. As yet very few prohibitive rules are on the bulletin board as it is confidently expected that each member will respect the rights and comfort of others. Each member is required to registered on entering the club and also to register her guests.

It is hoped that all Civil Servants (men and women) will avail themselves of the opportunity of visiting the club during the next couple of weeks, or indeed at any subsequent time.

* * *

Formal Opening.

Her Excellency, the Duchess of Devonshire has selected Wednesday, June 26th, at 5 o'clock p.m., as the date when she will formally declare the Halcyon Club open.

The executive will issue invitations for the event and notices will be sent to all the club members and members of the Women's Branch.

* * *

The War Contingent Association.

Several times the Women's Branch has received favours from the War Contingent Association, London. It was through their good offices that the parcels were sent to the navy and also our parcels to Civil Servants over seas. The association looks after the comfort of men in the trenches or when they are on furlough in the British Isles. The Red Cross may look after the wounded only, so the War Contingent Association is authorized to improve the welfare of the rest of the army and navy. It is a great work and one that we all are helping in some way.

At the last meeting of the executive of the Women's Branch a hundred dollars was voted to be sent to the Association as a small suitable tribute to carry the appreciation of the Civil Service of the work they are accomplishing.

* * *

An Appreciation.

France,

April 13th, 1918.

The Secretary,

Women's Branch of Civil Service Assn.,
Ottawa.

Dear Madam,—

I received a parcel from your association some three weeks ago, which I should have acknowledged long since but for the continual movements and changes of positions to which we have been subjected. The parcel was an excellent one, every article was extremely well chosen. It was all the more welcome because it was entirely unexpected and I am exceedingly grateful to your association, not merely for the parcel, but also for the expression of good wishes which accompanied it. Especially in a time of crisis like the present we are all of us proud to have the opportunity of doing something for Canada and for the Empire. But since military life necessarily involves a certain amount of danger and discomfort, it cheers and helps us immensely to be reminded at times that the people at home are thinking of us and are giving us all their support. So both for myself and on behalf of the other boys who shared your message and your parcel, I would express our deep gratitude.

Yours sincerely,

DIAMOND JENNESS,

No. 2353311.

SAVED A LIFE.

Arthur N. Smith, a customs officer at Bridgeburg, saved Edwin King, a ten year old boy, from drowning in the Niagara river on June 10th. The boy fell off a dock and was helpless in the swirling current.

Rev. Father Cullinane went to his assistance and was himself saved with difficulty from a watery grave. Smith was some distance away, but he reached the sinking boy in time to catch him before he disappeared and held him up until a rope was thrown to him.

A Few Notes on the New Law

(The following notes are from the pen of Mr. J. C. O'Connor, chairman of the Legislation Committee of the C. S. Association of Ottawa. Mr. O'Connor is the author of the articles in recent issues of The Civilian dealing with the amendments to Bill No. 53, and the Editors desire to acknowledge with appreciation his valuable assistance.)

The new Civil Service Act has been law for some weeks and civil servants are doubtless anxious to know how they will be affected by its operation. A study of some of the salient features of the Act will assist in arriving at some idea of its scope and meaning.

Section four enlarges greatly the duties of the Commission, while section thirty-seven gives the Commission the power to draw up regulations, with the approval of the Governor in Council for the carrying out of the Act. So the Commission will control all appointments and promotions, besides taking over such other duties as are necessary for the proper development of the Service. The fear expressed that the Commission may become a sort of a "family compact" is quite groundless, for the right to vote or refuse supply for the Service is still in the hands of the Government and Parliament.

In time the law will probably tend to bring about some uniformity in the Service. This need for uniformity is dealt with in section nine, which is one of the most important sections of the Act. In reading section nine it is important to note that a "plan of organization," as well as a "classification" is provided for. The "plan of organization" will naturally deal with the work while the "classification" will deal with the "officers, clerks and employees" who are to do the work. The following extract from section sixteen regarding promotions emphasizes this point: "No person shall be promoted unless he is to do work that is in the opinion of the Commission of greater importance and responsibility than he has hitherto done, or

unless his work is in the opinion of the Commission such as to justify the promotion." It may be accepted then that the plan of organization will allow the classification of like services in like grades whether Inside or Outside. As to any particular classes of work, such as technical work, accounting, and so forth, these classes of work have various grades and must be classified by the importance of the work in each position. Difficulties are at once apparent, but difficulties were never insurmountable. The simple solution is that each position should be graded in accordance with the current commercial rate of salary for such position. Why should the Dominion of Canada pay more and how in common justice can it pay less? The plan must be flexible then. It must provide for present abnormal conditions as well as for a return in post bellum days to a peace time service. Superannuation, in some effective form, must be introduced to give these ideas a fighting chance. Salaries, or grading under the schedules provided, must take into account present and future economic conditions in Canada, and even a casual study of economic conditions in Canada to-day is sufficient to convince one that the large sized dollar of 1914 is not likely to appear again in this generation, in peace or war.

As regards the Inside Service, the situation appears more definite than as regards the Outside Service, though this is only partly true. The scale of salaries enacted by section forty-three will not come into force "until the Inside Service is reorganized," therefore it cannot be said that any person will be placed in such and such a grade or division except in so far as subsections four and five of section nine preserve his present status. For the present the

old conditions prevail and they will pass away only after the reorganization and reclassification. Very likely as time goes on certain branches will be eliminated entirely or amalgamated with other similar branches. In this connection it may be stated that a considerable reduction of work could be made by having all the officers of one department under one roof. Immediate radical changes may scarcely be expected in the Inside Service, but certainly the next few years should see many improvements.

Section fifty-two, which outlines the method whereby the Outside Service is to be organized and classified, does not in any way vary the general provisions of the law. Conditions in the Outside Services of the various departments vary even more than

between the Inside Services of the same departments. The difficulty of reaching even an approximate uniformity will therefore be more apparent. Following, however, "the same general principles" in time order may come out of chaos.

In general, it may be said that the Service has much to hope for from the new law and but little to fear. Various minor improvements in the law have been made and these will each have their own benefit to confer upon the Service and the people in different ways. The Service should endeavour to co-operate with the Commission in giving the new law a fair chance to show that a good law properly administered is the foundation of efficiency.

STATUTORY LEAVE IN OTTAWA

(Order in Council, June 10th.)

WHEREAS, there has been laid before His Excellency the Governor General in Council a memorandum from the Secretary of State representing that an earnest appeal has been made to the Civil Service on behalf of the farmers in the counties adjacent to Ottawa for help in the work of haying and harvesting;

AND, WHEREAS, it is also represented that it is vital to the Allied Armies that the food supply should be maintained at the highest possible point, and that unless help to the farmers is provided the crops throughout this district cannot be harvested and the farmers will, therefore, be unable to respond to the need for increased production;

THEREFORE, His Excellency the Governor General in Council, with a view to encouraging members of the Civil Service who are physically fit to devote their holidays to this patriotic work, is pleased, under the provisions of the War Measures Act, 1914, to order and doth hereby order and direct that, instead of the usual statutory leave, one month's holiday, with full pay, be granted, provided that three weeks of that time be spent in farm work.

The important periods are three weeks commencing the 15th of July, and three

weeks later, when the grain harvest commences.

Note.—The officers of the Federation will endeavour to have the above O. in C. extended to the whole Service.

W. E. LEMON, POSTMASTER.

The Civil Service Commission has issued a certificate for the promotion of Mr. W. E. Lemon as Postmaster at Toronto, vice W. B. Rogers, deceased. The promotion, based upon merit, meets with unqualified approval in the Service.

Language.

Dr. Osler tells the following to illustrate the elasticity of the English language as used by the Southern negro.

One day there came to the clinic a negress with a broken jaw. The examining physician, intent on discovering the exact nature and extent of the injury, asked numerous questions. Finally she admitted that she was "hit by an object."

"Was it a large object or a small object?" asked the physician.

"Toll'by large."

"Was it a hard object or a soft object?"

"Tolle'by hard."

"Was it coming rapidly or slowly?"

"Tolle'by fast."

Then, her patience exhausted, the negress turned to the physician. "To tell the truth, doctor, I was jest simply kick'd in the face by a gen'leman friend."

Dominion Customs Association

Leave of Absence.

Section 28 of the Civil Service Act gives the Civil Service Commission the power to make certain regulations for leave of absence in case of sickness, or for other reasons, with the approval of the Governor in Council.

As a consequence regulations hitherto governing leave of absence for sickness, or other causes, have been cancelled. No objection was made to this amendment to the Act at the time the Bill was drafted, as it was felt it was a move in the right direction. No civil servant who has a proper conception of the duties of his office need have any fear of suffering unjustly in the matter of sick leave, as the Civil Service Federation Executive have already taken the matter up with the Civil Service Commission who have shown a very sympathetic interest in anything affecting the welfare and improving the conditions of civil servants.

Provisional Allowance.

A great many enquiries have been received regarding the war bonus, or provisional allowance; how, and when it will be paid, and who are entitled to receive it. Answering the last question first, every one who is not at the maximum mentioned in the vote, except unmarried persons who have no dependents. As to how it will be paid, no one seems to know definitely, but it is likely to be in quarterly instalments, so that would make the first payment some time in July.

In the last issue of *The Civilian*, several flattering comments appeared editorially in the "Postal Journal" on the part played in the recent agitation for Civil Service reform by the local representative of the Dominion Customs Association. While duly appreciating many of the pleasant things said, it must be remembered that of the few earnest men who devoted so much of their time, energy and intelligence to the downfall of patronage, the writers above mentioned, who seemed so anxious to give the

credit to others, were themselves mainly responsible, and many a distant home is gladdened and some of the burden lifted by the additional salary which the efforts of these men made possible. Appreciation from their fellow members by loyal support in future questions of policy seems to be the only reward expected or desired.

Esprit de Corps.

Until ninety-five per cent of the members of the Outside Customs are affiliated with the D.C.A. and are interested in its affairs, the executive will not cease in its efforts to bring about the desired results. A circular is being mailed to the unattached ports, explaining the benefits the D.C.A. has already obtained, and expects in the future, and it is expected an increased membership will follow. No man can afford to be a slacker in this work of making the Civil Service a career with a future for everyone who has a proper conception of his duty as a public servant. So everyone is expected to "do his bit" in the good work and "carry on" until the pot-hunter and carpet-baggers of "Patronage" will be only an evil memory to the Civil Service.

Uniforms.

The increased allowance for uniforms from \$21.00 to \$35.00 will be welcome news for those affected, and will be considered a hopeful augury that the vexed question of "overtime" will receive the same generous treatment at the hands of Hon. A. L. Sifton and Mr. John McDougald, Minister and Commissioner of Customs, respectively, when they consider that matter.

A Little Life

If we judge by the paucity of news from the various branch associations, everything must be lovely, everyone satisfied, and nothing is going on. This, however, is not the true state of affairs, and the secretaries are politely requested to sit up and take their pens in hand and send in a few notes of the most recent and thrilling happenings

of their respective ports. Fish stories are barred.

With regard to the above, a hint is thrown out to the older (and wiser) heads, whose fund of reminiscences of the early days in the Service would be most instructive and interesting, that a contribution or two would serve to show the "young fellows" of the present day how the Department was handled, many years ago, where the collector and landing waiter of some of the ports whose staffs are now very large, divided the duties of handling the revenue and examination of baggage and checking freight, with justice and impartiality without regard to rank or standing.

A GOLDEN WEDDING.

Congratulations were showered upon Mr. and Mrs. Peter Connolly on June 8th when they celebrated the fiftieth anniversary of their marriage. Both of them are natives of Quebec city and their union took place in the Ancient Capital. Just a few months earlier Mr. Connolly had entered the Government service in Ottawa and consequently his golden jubilee as an active civil servant shortly preceded the golden wedding anniversary. Mr. Connolly, who is housekeeper of the House of Commons, is recovering from a severe illness, and on this account, and as well on account of the state of war existing, the celebration was a very quiet one. Nevertheless, the family and hosts of

friends of the old couple would not let the day pass without some observance and there were many callers who tendered their hearty felicitations and presented appropriate souvenirs of the happy anniversary.



DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVAL SERVICE.

ROYAL NAVAL COLLEGE OF CANADA.



The Royal Naval College is established for the purpose of imparting a complete education in Naval Science.

Graduates are qualified to enter the Imperial or Canadian Services as midshipmen. A Naval career is not compulsory, however. For those who do not wish to enter the Navy the course provides a thorough grounding in Applied Science, and is accepted as qualifying for entry as second year students in Canadian Universities.

The scheme of education aims at developing discipline with ability to obey and take charge, a high sense of honour, both physical and mental, a good grounding in Science, Engineering, Mathematics, Navigation, History and Modern Languages, as a basis for general development or further specialization.

Candidates must be between their fourteenth and sixteenth birthdays on July 1st following the examination.

Particulars of entry may be obtained on application to the Department of the Naval Service, Ottawa.

G. J. DESBARATS,

Deputy Minister of the Naval Service.
Ottawa, January 8, 1918.

Unauthorized publication of this advertisement will not be paid for.

NOTICE TO SUBSCRIBERS

For the past ten years *The Civilian* has endeavoured to view the whole Civil Service as a family where loyalty and *esprit de corps* would abound. One result of this attitude has been that many subscriptions have been allowed to run for several years. Disappointment has followed this course, for the confidence reposed in the good faith of many subscribers in arrears has not been justified. *The Civilian* is therefore compelled to adopt a new policy and cut off the list the names of those whose subscription fee is not paid up. Please examine your label and if it is not up to date address an envelope to P. O. Box 484.

Correspondence.

We do not hold ourselves responsible for opinions expressed under this heading.

The Third Division Clerks of the Inside Service and the War Bonus.

Dept. of Railways and Canals,
Ottawa, June 13th, 1918.

Editors of *The Civilian*:

Dear Sir,—In your issue of *The Civilian* of May 24th, 1918, under the heading of "Outside Service Bonus," you state that, "The Federation officers took the opportunity to put in a plea for a bonus on behalf of the messengers of the Inside Service who had dependents; and the Hon. Mr. Maclean accepted the suggestion most sympathetically, as has been his habit in dealing with the Service; and it is hoped that an item will be incorporated in the \$3,000,000 vote for this much deserving class."

Now, Sir, I should very much like to know whether the Hon. Mr. Maclean accepted the suggestion most sympathetically because they were messengers, or because of the small and insufficient salaries they were receiving. If it was because of the latter reason, then the Hon. Mr. Maclean must sympathize with quite a large number of Third Division clerks in the Inside Service who have dependents on them; and of whom, some are getting less, some equal to, and some a little more than the messengers.

I therefore think that if the Hon. Mr. Maclean only knew of the continual daily struggle which some of the Third Division clerks in the Inside Service are having against poverty and hardship on account of these abnormal times, he would, in his great sympathy, interest, and big-heartedness, of which he has already shown towards the Service, extend the war bonus to those clerks in the Third Division of the Inside Service who are burdened with the extra expense of having dependents on them.

Yours truly,

A. H. MATHIE.

PERSONALS.

George A. Dehler, of the Bureau of Statistics, was married on June 12th, in St. Joseph's church, Ottawa, to Mary Marguerita, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Charles E. McDougal. The ceremony was performed by the bridegroom's brother, Rev. Robert Dehler.

OBITUARY.

Flight Instructor Gordon Birchard, R.A.F., killed in an accident at Camp Borden, was a brother of Wm. D. Birchard, of the St. Thomas and Windsor Ry. P. O. The young man gave his life for his country as surely as if he had died on the firing line.

Frank McCaffrey, a veteran employee of the Department of Finance, who had been on the superannuation list for twenty years, died on June 9th, aged eighty-four years.

John Cannon, a retired customs officer of Niagara Falls, died on June 8th.

Flight-Lieut. W. F. Salton, killed in action, was a son of W. H. Salton, of the Central Registry, Militia and Defence.

Joseph Deslauriers, of the Department of the Interior, died on June 11th after a long illness. He was well known in amateur sporting circles.

Fernandez Naubert, formerly of St. Phillippe de Argenteuil, who died in Ottawa last week, aged 83 years, was the father of J. E. Naubert, of the Commons staff.

William Richardson, deputy collector of inland revenue, Calgary Division, died at Edmonton on May 15th, after a very short illness.

OBSERVATORY OPEN.

Sir George Foster, Acting Prime Minister, has received the following telegram, dated June 12, from the Lieut.-Governor of British Columbia:

"Last night I officially opened the new Dominion astrophysical observatory in the presence of three distinguished scientists from the United States and a large official gathering. Please accept my congratulations."

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POST OFFICE AND PEOPLE.

By Charles Johnson Post.

It is unfortunate that Mr. Burleson, Postmaster General, in his annual report just issued, seems to give the impression that he regards the Post Office Department in the light of any ordinary, profit-making, mercantile enterprise, from whose unorganized employees must be wrung the last drop of sweat and whose charges and balance sheets must be screwed up to the last penny of profit. This is the only cabinet officer who takes such a view of his department. It is a principle that is untrue and unsound. The fact is that it is a misconception of our great governmental function. It is not established for profits and earning power, but in order to serve the needs of the country.

Mr. Burleson opposes the organization of the postal employees, apparently lest they too earnestly work to better the salaries and conditions established forty years ago, when living was cheaper and the purchasing power of their salaries infinitely greater; but this is a matter which organized workers are able to discuss. It is a pitiful thing that a great Government should not set a high standard of relations between employer and employee.

But most of Mr. Burleson's report is for the purpose of justifying the 50 to 900 per cent increase—through the zone system—that has been slapped onto the reading public of the United States. Every citizen should write to Congress in protest against this iniquitous and oppressive law.

Mr. Burleson is particularly hostile in his attitude to the advertising pages of periodicals, overlooking entirely the fact that it is the advertising pages that have made the present high quality of the reading pages and art work possible.

He alleges that all periodicals, religious, trade, scientific and home papers, are handled at a tremendous loss to the Government, and he argues for the 50 to 900 per cent increase in periodical postage on the ground that it should be self-sustaining. That is, that periodical readers shall pay from $1\frac{1}{2}$ cents to 10 cents a pound for their magazine postage as against $1\frac{1}{2}$ cents charged at present. This means less reading and less education and instruction—and at a crisis in our history when we need it most. Let us view his results in the light of some comparisons:

"The Weekly-Farm-to-Table Bulletin" of the Wells Fargo Express Company shows that they will collect, ship and deliver at my door an eight-pound salmon from Seattle, packed in seven pounds of ice, a 15-pound package, for a total charge, including the fish, of \$2.00. Conference with Wells Fargo people discloses that \$1.00 of this is allowed for express charge, or, in other words, seven cents a pound called for and collected and delivered at my door.

The Post Office charges ten cents a pound for the advertising pages of a magazine alone—and the department alleges this is their cost of handling! And, mind you, magazines are delivered to the Post Office free, and in the bulk of cases also called for! What is it, inefficiency or bad accounting? According to this the Post Office charges three cents a pound more for an inferior service. Further, the same "Farm-to-Table Bulletin" of the Wells Fargo Express will ship me eggs, poultry, nuts, butter, apples, honey and in fact all kinds of farm product from each zone marked out by the Post Office Department, or new postal law, at from 20 to 35 per cent cheaper than the Post Office Department can deliver tremendously important periodicals. It is

of course an absurdity. It proves one of two things:

(A) That the Post Office Department has no accounting system worthy of that name and does not know how much it costs to handle periodicals, or

(B) That it handles them so inefficiently that a more drastic reorganization of its methods should be demanded.

Postmaster General Burleson's report might well deal with either of these phases.

So much for figures—for in a matter of this kind figures are not as of high importance as are the underlying principles between citizens and Government relations. The rational Government principle of the Post Office Department is analogous to that of a Highway Department—an intellectual and educational highway—that it should first give the most widespread means of communication irrespective of cost. It has delivered letters in Alaska for 2 cents that cost \$1.00 on a 1,200 mile sledge haul with a dog team—and it has been by such means that Alaska has developed. Who would deny the soundness of that theory or condemn its practice!

Communication, contact, the easy spread and communication of ideas and progress; these are the things that make for civilization, unity, citizenship, patriotism and progress. They are a special cost to no one man—they are benefits whose cost and upkeep our social organization should pay. For our social organization as a whole is benefited.

It is the reader, it is the citizen, his wife and children and his community, who are the direct and great beneficiaries of social progress, whether it be through cheap and easily secured periodicals, or through easy transportation systems and the abolition of penalties on educational intercourse. And this 50 to 900 per cent periodical postage increase means less reading for our country.

If paper, ink, printing and printing presses had been as cheap and as accessible four centuries ago as they are to-day, our civilization would be a thousand years in advance of its present standard.

The benefits of the invention of the print-

ing press went to society, not to the inventor. The benefits of periodical circulation go to the reader and only incidentally to the publishers.

Is the Postal Department different in principle from the Department of Agriculture? Or the Department of the Interior? Or the Department of Commerce? Or the Department of Labor? Is the Post Office different in the principle of its relation to the people of the country from other departments? Its service is to the people of the country and it has nothing to do with paying dividends and accumulating surpluses, wage driving, or extortionate freight rates.

The Department of Agriculture expends millions of dollars finding out about hog cholera, glanders, wheat rust and various matters that mean profit to the farmers. Should it make a charge to the farmer for that, even to cover the cost of the experiment? It does not because it was founded on the theory that the demand for the increased output of farm wealth should be properly shouldered by the people at large.

The free bulletins on farm produce, and on weather reports, and on the mines of this country, and the publications of commercial opportunities through our Commerce Department, and the opportunity for labor through the Labor Department, and the investigation into child labor—any of these if paid for by the direct beneficiary would entail a cost that could not be borne.

It is the reading public that receives the benefit of cheap postage and not printers and publishers. Transportation cost, be it high or low, is paid by the consumer and not by the producer. This whole question of periodical postage involves the same principles as the old toll-road arguments. To-day we know that free highways are of the utmost importance to the welfare of the country. Yet, there were people who, when the abolition of toll-roads was proposed, clamored that free highways were a benefit to vehicle users only! And that the men who walked would have to pay the burden of the up-keep for those who travelled on wheels. What an absurdity! Yet, it is not more absurd than the present-day claims to which Mr. Burleson lends

himself, that easy dissemination of reading matter is a subsidy to publishers that should be exterminated, as he candidly suggests, by freight rates, if it cannot survive in the face of the 50 to 900 per cent periodical postage raise.

In Russia no one reads unless he has money enough to pay high postage, that amply covers the cost of transportation and accordingly meets the ideal postal principle as enunciated by Mr. Burleson and supported by Mr. Claude Kitchin, in the last postal amendment passed by Congress.

The figures claimed by Mr. Burleson and Mr. Kitchin for their zoning rate system are an absurdity, in the light of the charges for more difficult freight given by the Wells Fargo Express Company; and the Wells Fargo Express Company quoting rates 20 to 35 per cent lower than the Government, giving a quicker and a more difficult service and delivery, has in addition paid dividends to its stock-holders. In the light of such an absurdity it is useless to discuss figures or efficiency of this character with Mr. Burleson.

The whole matter is fundamentally one involving the principle of the postal function in its relation to the people of the country. It is not a dividend-paying department—for no department of the Government should expect to pay dividends like a Wall Street corporation. It is a function that benefits the people as a whole; it is the modern form of free highways against the toll-road principle, and no one except these postal reactionaries would attempt to re-establish the toll-road principle and apply it either to our highways or our postal department. When it is not such a function it has no place either in the cabinet or a Government department.

HERE AND THERE.

Delegates to convention should wear the Association button, and so help the reception committee of the Toronto Branch.

* * *

The Association has been passing through strenuous times, and when the whole story is

told at convention we know that criticism of the expenditure of the Association's money will turn into expressions of satisfaction.

* * *

No organization can accomplish much without the aid of the medium of exchange—money—any more than Dobbin can perform a hard day's work without his hay and oats. This nod should receive more than a wink from the few branches whose per capita tax is long overdue.

* * *

“The Postal and Telegraph Clerks’ Association of Great Britain in conference at Southport, recently, agreed with a scheme for amalgamation with the Postmen’s Federation. The incoming executive was authorized to take steps to contest four seats at the general election under the auspices of the Labour Party.”—News item. How well our confreres across the pond know the value of direct representation in the Commons Chamber.

BRANCH NOTES.

Saskatoon.

The deep sympathy of the staff is tendered to Mr. and Mrs. F. T. Fuller in the sad loss, after a long illness, of their little daughter.

To those of us who are inclined to kick at trifles it would be as well to look around. We would surely find others whose afflictions are infinitely greater and are borne without complaint. We are happy to report that the wife of our treasurer, Mrs. R. D. Torbet, is home again after undergoing a serious operation. Says Bob: “Sure, it’ll cost two three dollars, but she’s doing fine, mon.” So we should worry.

It is reported that in the House, on May 11th, one Col. John Currie took exception to civil servants asking the country for justice, and stating what *he* would do. Who is Col. John Currie, anyway, that he presumes to appoint himself judge and jury over several thousand civil servants? The trouble with the gallant Colonel is that he was born

about four hundred years late; the reign of the Spanish Inquisition would have been more to his taste.

Greater Production. Everybody's doing it. Are you? The Post Office staff at Saskatoon is. One enthusiast went so far as to start a moustache; at least he said it was one. Someone asked him when he was going to wash his face. Since then he has used the lawn mower.

LET THE GOOD WORK CONTINUE.

The Association is fortunate in having a loyal membership that is conscious of the difficulties and pitfalls that lie in its path. Occasionally may be heard a growl of disgust from a "give me something for nothing" individual, or a splutter of disdain from he who has friends at "court"—political or departmental—who are not averse to opening wide the throttle to have him "railroaded" through the Service in recompense for "services rendered," however menial those services might be, but such aspersions may well go unheeded considering the sources from which they come. The solidarity of effort and purpose have won a great deal for the Association. Indefatigable workers lent their aid to the Government when the Civil Service bill was under discussion, and continued effort brought forth an act which provided machinery for generally improving the Service. The necessity for organization has been vindicated. What is needed is the support of all postal clerks to the organization which has served them so well and which proposes to strengthen its power for the good of the Service.

ABOLISHED AT LAST.

By dint of hard work and convincing argument, the thorn in the Association has been removed; the semi-staff office is abolished. The heart of every associationist will throb with joy with the knowledge that such a palpable injustice to the Service has been removed. The thanks of the Associa-

tion are due to the general secretary, the semi-staff office representative on the executive, Mr. W. J. Cantwell, and the secretary of the Civil Service Federation, whose incessant efforts are responsible in no small way for the victory we have secured.

TORONTO'S NEW POSTMASTER.

W. E. Lemon has been promoted to the position of Postmaster of Toronto.

The "Postal Journal" extends its heartiest congratulations to Mr. Lemon on his well earned promotion.

Congratulations are also extended to the Government for having secured from the people of this country a final decree of total separation from that hydraheaded spouse, "Patronage," to which she has been so long wedded.

* * *

A few more "Lemons" in the Postal Garden will help the public to forget its unsightly "Acres."

A Great Event at Toronto.

(By Wm. Christy.)

Monday, June 17th, will be a memorable date in the history of Toronto's Post Office and staff, for arriving for duty that morning the members were pleased to read the posted notice of the promotion of W. E. Lemon, Deputy Postmaster, to be Postmaster. To witness the installation at noon in the Chief Post Office Superintendent's office, representatives of all staffs throughout the city were invited, and there was never a happier gathering in this old building. The oldest and youngest in the Service, male and female, porters and chief clerks, all came to witness the unusual inauguration and first promotion of this kind. The good wishes of all go to Mr. Lemon, and it is safe to say that all who have been able to reach the G.P.O. to-day have congratulated him and are proud that the Service has been so honoured.

When the gathering had assembled, Col. Ross spoke in part as follows:

As I view your appointment to the position of Postmaster of the largest and most important post office in the Dominion of Canada, the Government by this act officially serves notice on every post office man throughout the length and breadth of this country to-day, and also on those who may hereafter join the Service, that the highest offices in the gift of the Government are within reach of every postal employee.

I joined the post office staff at Hamilton in 1875, and am now in my forty-fourth year of service, during which period occasionally or spasmodically the question of Civil Service reform has been under review, and in some instances substantial progress has been made, but your appointment at this time as Postmaster clearly indicates that the messages promulgated by the Government to the people of Canada in general, and to the employees of the Civil Service in particular, on this very important and far-reaching reform have already borne fruit.

Speaking generally as Chief Post Office Superintendent, I hope that post office men from the Pacific to the Atlantic will prove worthy of the trust that is being reposed in them by the Government, and that they will, by industry, perseverance, diligence, honesty of effort and civility to the public, endeavor to merit that confidence.

Mr. Lemon, in reply, said: Colonel Ross, Chief Post Office Superintendent, employees of Toronto Post Office: To-day is a most

eventful day in my life. Starting in the Service over thirty-five years ago, young and ambitious as I was, you must all admit it would be beyond my hopes to ever reach the position of Postmaster under the old order. My fellow-employees have gathered here to-day in large numbers to witness my installation under a new order, and I have to thank Col. Ross, the Deputy Postmaster-General, and the Civil Service Commission that I am to-day your superior officer. It is indeed gratifying to know that a boy may start in the Service as a special delivery messenger and can reach such a position. This condition was a long time arriving, but, thanks to the efforts put forth from time to time by the Civil Service, backed by public opinion, you will all enjoy its advantages. In history I have the honour of being the seventh Postmaster of Toronto, the first to be appointed from the Service, and the chief officer of the largest post office in Canada. In these days the public demand service. An intelligent and obliging staff is necessary in this branch which comes so close to all the people if we are to retain their esteem. Let service be your motto, as has been my endeavour in the past, for, remember, ladies and gentlemen, in promoting me the Government has not only honoured me but it has dignified the whole Civil Service by declaring to the whole country that the highest positions in the land are within reach of the rank and file.

At the close of the speeches, cheers were given for Postmaster Lemon and the National Anthem was sung.

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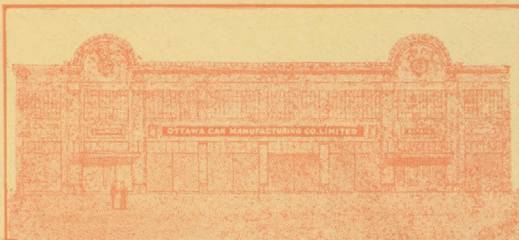
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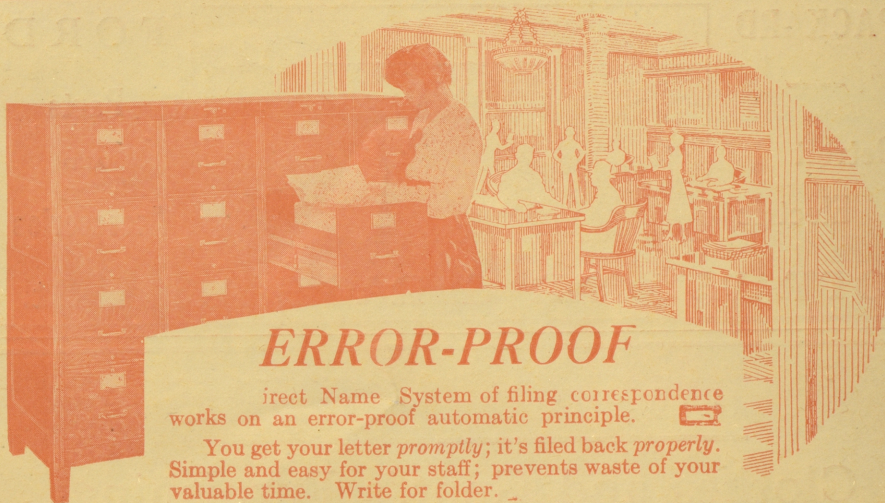
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